

Message Text

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ACTION OC-06

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6771

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 1953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM, AFSP, ASEC

SUBJ: COMMUNICATIONS, PROTECTIVE SECURITY (RADIOS)

CARACAS FOR RSO

REF: POS 1385, 245, 341, DAY TO NICHOLS LTR OF 1/10/74

1. CEO/R NED PAES' VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL AND HIGHLY APPRECIATED. THE POST IS APPROACHING A RADIO CONFIGURATION NECESSARY TO FULFILL PROTECTIVE SECURITY AND E&E PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. ADDITIONAL MOBILE UNITS, REMOTE OPTIONS, MOBILE OPTIONS, AND ACCESSORIES SHOULD COMPLETE PROGRAM.

2. AS ALL RADIOS IN MAIN CHANCERY BUILDING ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE COMM AREA (SEE PORT OF SPAIN 245 AND 341 AND REF LTR FOR DISCUSSION OUR PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE FOR OPTIMAL EFFICIENCY), ADMIN SECTION IN SEPARATE ANNEX USES A FM-56 BASE STATION FOR VEHICLE CONTROL, ADMIN AND EMERGENCY REASONS DURING WORKING HOURS. SECURITY FORCE,

WHICH PROVIDES COMPOUND SECURITY, AND RESPONDS TO ALL AFTER HOUR INQUIRIES AND OTHER PROBLEMS, MONITORS SEPARATE FM-56 LOCATED IN ANOTHER PORTION OF ADMIN ANNEX DURING NON-WORKING HOURS. THE LATTER FM-56 COULD BE RELEASED FOR DESIGNATED SERVICE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE WITH INSTALLATION OF A REMOTE UNIT CONNECTED TO FM-56 SITED ADMIN OFFICES. THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD PROVIDE CRITICAL LINK TO DUTY OFFICER, AMBASSADOR AND ALL OTHER OFFICERS DURING ALL TOO FREQUENT TELEPHONE AND ELECTRICITY SERVICES INTERRUPTIONS.

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3. IN ADDITION TO AMBASSADOR'S SEDAN, STATE HAS TWO PASSENGER STATION WAGONS AND ONE PICKUP TRUCK. LATTER THREE VEHICLES ACQUIRED LAST SUMMER. ALL ARE HEAVILY USED THROUGHOUT TRINIDAD INCLUDING HIGHLY MOUNTAINOUS RESIDENTIAL AREAS SURROUNDING PORT OF SPAIN. PAES INSTALLED MT-76S IN AMBASSADOR SEDAN AND ONE PASSENGER WAGON OTHER WAGON AND TRUCK USE HN-36S AS BEFORE HOWEVER THEY ARE SO LIMITED THAT AIRPORT, EMBASSY WAREHOUSE AND MOST RESIDENTIAL AREAS CAN NOT BE REACHED. IT IS READILY APPARENT THAT AT LEAST ONE IF NOT TWO MT-76S ARE NEEDED TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS ENVISIONED BY PROGRAM.

4. WHILE WE ARE WILLING TO INSTALL AND TRY PR36 MOBILE CONVERSION IN EMBASSY TRUCK, WE SERIOUSLY DOUBT ITS EFFICACY IN VIEW EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE WITH HN-36S. HOWEVER, ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF MT-76 IN SECOND STATION WAGON SHOULD NOT BE DEFERRED ANY LONGER. CEO/R PAES AWARE OF REQUIREMENTS AND TERRAIN LIMITATIONS, HE CAN PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS ON RETURN.

5. EMBASSY REQUESTS FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT ACTION:

A. PROVIDE ONE MT-76 FOR INSTALLATION SECOND PASSENGER STATION WAGON.

B. PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MT-76 FOR UTILITY TRUCK OR ADVISE ALTERNATIVE TO PRESENT HN-36.

C. PROVIDE TWO REMOTE CONTROL UNITS TO BE OPERATED WITH FM-56 BASE LOCATED IN ADMIN ANNEX. ONE FOR AFTER HOURS GUARD; OTHER FOR SECURITY OFFICER AND ASSISTANT DURING WORKING HOURS.

D. REVIEW AND RECONSIDER PREVIOUS EMBASSY PROPOSAL FOR RELOCATION OF VHF, SSB, AND HF RADIOS TO MORE WORKABLE LOCATION C&R AREA.

6. WHILE USIS HAS NOT PURSUED QUESTION, YOUR GUIDANCE ON PROVISION AND FUNDING OF RADIOS FOR USIS VEHICLES ALSO BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED.

MILLER

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